Air Force Environmental Restoration Program- A State Perspective

Robert Geller
Federal Facilities Section Chief
Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Missouri Facilities

- Whiteman Air Force Base
- Richards - Gebaur Air Reserve Station
- Rosecrans Air National Guard Base
- St. Louis - Lambert Air National Guard Base
- Jefferson Barracks Air National Guard Base
- Ft. Leonard Wood Air National Guard range?
- Other Air Force Reserves/Guard Installations?

Goals

- Expedite environmental investigations and remediation
- Insure adequate protection of human health and the environment
- Provide for decisions and actions which minimze future environmental concerns

Successes

- Removal actions at Rosecrans
- Removal actions at Whiteman
- Investigations at Minuteman II sites
- Investigations at Richards Gebaur AFRES
- Community Involvement thru Establishment of Restoration Advisory Boards

Challenges

- Maximize resources
- provide timely oversight and review
- minimize surprises
- work effectively with DOD installations
- plan and execute actions

Opportunities for Improvement

- Develop 2-Party agreements
  - Minimizes the extensive analysis and reanalysis of sliding projects
  - provides a clear means of actions
  - ex: MMII agreement

More Opportunities

- Incorporate State as a “true” partner in environmental restoration activities.

- Obtain state input / concurrence on environmental issues regardless of “color of money” utilized for environmental restoration projects

Questions/Concerns

- Role of the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
- Status of Land Use controls or Institutional controls for Federal Facilities

Questions / Concerns

- Input from States on AF /DOD guidance
- Permit Exemption Policy
- BRAC Fed to Fed property transfer
- Natural Resource Damages